

# Episode 50

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*“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and don’t do the things I say? I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. When the flood came, the river crashed against that house and couldn’t shake it, because it was well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The river crashed against it, and immediately it collapsed. And the destruction of that house was great.”*

– Luke 6:47-49

Could it be that underlying all the shaking happening in our culture, from lockdown to politics, gender-based violence, BLM, and more, the church is creaking due to a lack of true discipleship? Could it be that much of our Christian walk is being exposed as being built on sand?

For the most part, Christians are living in a crisis of statistically identical lives to unbelieving South Africans. Sexuality and pornography use amongst Christians are almost identical to those who don’t follow Jesus. Spending habits and lack of financial integrity and stewardship are almost identical to those who don’t follow Jesus. Lifestyle choices and major moral issues are more of a reflection of the world than an outworking of scripture, to which, Alexander Venter asked the question “why doesn’t the gospel seem to change us?”

Jesus taught that the test of our discipleship is whether we act on his teachings, whether we put his words into practice. This is what it means to build our house on a rock, and one of the things that is being revealed right now is that we have built our foundation on the same foundation as the world - but we’ve just decorated our houses with Christian clutter. We don’t look like Jesus though we claim to bear his name.

One of the things that could be happening is that God is giving us a crisis in the midst of all the chaos that is currently sweeping the globe. God is leaning in while our regular lives and rhythms are being disrupted, calling us to once again reset our trajectory and take on Jesus’ heart and character and posture. It is a time for deep, personal examination.

If Christ is in us, then His life will flow through us.

# ONE33